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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Case No. 02-090-B)

In Re Application of:)

Bakthavatchalam, et al.)

Serial No.: 09/910,442)

Filed: July 20, 2001)

For: CAPSAICIN RECEPTOR LIGANDS)

Examiner:

Kahsay Habte

Art Unit: 1624

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION

MAILED NOVEMBER 7, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed November 7, 2002, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the patent application identified above in view of the following amendments and remarks.

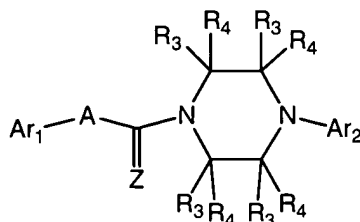
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AMENDMENTS

In the Abstract:

Please enter the following amended Abstract:

Disclosed are diaryl piperazines and related compounds of the following Formula:



BL

wherein the variables are as defined in the specification. These compounds are selective modulators of capsaicin receptors, including human capsaicin receptors, that are, therefore, useful in the treatment of a chronic and acute pain conditions, itch and urinary incontinence. Methods of treatment of such disorders and well as packaged pharmaceutical compositions are also provided. Compounds of the invention are also useful as probes for the localization of capsaicin receptors and as standards in assays for capsaicin receptor binding and capsaicin receptor mediated cation conductance. Methods of using the compounds in receptor localization studies are given.